

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. – 30. (Canceled)

31. (Currently Amended) A mask for the inhalation of medication comprising:

a front portion having an inlet adapted for connection to a source for providing an aerosol medication, wherein said mask has minimal dead space inside yet provides efficient inhalation and exhalation flow paths that purge said mask of exhaled air;

a side wall expanding outwardly from said front portion to a rear portion adapted to fit sealingly on a human face;

a wall located adjacent said front portion, and a valve integrally formed in an opening in said wall, wherein said wall and said valve form a single piece of material, said valve adapted for positioning adjacent nostrils of a nose; and

wherein said valve is adapted to permit air flow through said opening upon a patient breathing in a first direction, and to prevent air flow through said opening upon the patient breathing in a second direction opposite the first direction, and wherein said valve comprises an exhalation valve in fluid communication with an extension projecting from said side wall.

32. – 33. (Cancelled)

34. (Currently Amended) The invention of claim 31 [[32]], wherein said exhalation valve comprises a duckbill valve.

35. (Previously Presented) The invention of claim 31, wherein said mask comprises a translucent material.

36. (Previously Presented) A mask for use with an aerosol delivery device, the mask comprising:

an inlet for receiving an end of a medication aerosol delivery device, said inlet adapted for substantial alignment with a mouth of a patient wearing said mask ;

a nosepiece integral with said mask, said nosepiece projecting outwardly from a wall of said mask, and adapted to extend over a nose of a patient wearing said mask;

an exhalation valve located adjacent said nosepiece, said exhalation valve adapted for positioning adjacent the nostrils of the nose, said exhalation valve comprising a one-way valve to permit air flow out of said mask upon exhalation, and to prevent air from entering into said mask upon patient inhalation; and

wherein said mask is adapted to cover the mouth and nose of the patient and further wherein said exhalation valve is integral with said wall of said mask, said wall and said exhalation valve comprising a single piece of material.

37. (Previously Presented) The invention of claim 36 wherein said exhalation valve comprises a duckbill valve.

38. (Previously Presented) The invention of claim 36 wherein said nose piece comprises an extension and said exhalation valve is recessed in said extension.

39. (Previously Presented) The invention of claim 38 wherein movement of said exhalation valve in response to exhaled air is visible through a wall of said extension.

40. (Previously Presented) The invention of claim 38 wherein said exhalation valve is recessed in said extension a distance of at least a diameter of said exhalation valve.

41. (Previously Presented) The invention of claim 38 wherein the extension extends substantially to an end of said mask adjacent to said inlet.

42. (Previously Presented) The invention of claim 38, wherein said mask further comprises a first frustoconical section and a second frustoconical section, a first end of the first frustoconical section adapted for contact with a face and said second frustoconical section connected with the first frustoconical section, wherein said tunnel-like extension extends longitudinally along said first frustoconical portion and said second frustoconical portion.

43. (Previously Presented) A mask for use with an aerosol delivery device, the mask comprising:

an aerosol inlet configured for positioning substantially in front of a mouth of a patient wearing said mask, said aerosol inlet adapted for receiving a source of aerosol medication;

said mask adapted for fitting over said mouth and a nose of said patient, said mask comprised of a first frustoconical portion of first taper and a second frustoconical portion of a greater taper than said first frustoconical portion; and

a one-way valve recessed in an extension projecting outwardly from said mask and surrounding an opening in said mask adjacent nostrils of said patient, said one-way valve operative to prevent air flow through said opening in a first direction, but which permits air flow through said opening in a second direction, wherein said extension prevents tampering with said one-way valve.

44. (Previously Presented) The invention of claim 43 wherein said extension extends longitudinally along said first frustoconical portion and said second frustoconical portion.

45. (Previously Presented) The invention of claim 43 wherein said one-way valve is recessed in said extension a distance of at least a diameter of said one-way valve.

46. (Previously Presented) The invention of claim 43 wherein said extension extends substantially to said aerosol inlet of said mask.

47. (Previously Presented) The invention of claim 43 wherein said one-way valve comprises a circular head.

48. (Previously Presented) The invention of claim 43 wherein said one-way valve is convex on an outer surface and concave on an inner surface.

49. (Previously Presented) The invention of claim 43 wherein said one-way valve includes a valve head having an undersurface which is flattened against a flat front of a wall in said mask.

50. (Previously Presented) The invention of claim 43 wherein said second valve has a slit that bows out.

51. (Previously Presented) The invention of claim 43 wherein said mask is just over three inches in diameter across a rear thereof.

52. (Previously Presented) The invention of claim 43 wherein said mask is just over 2 inches from a rear open end to said aerosol inlet.